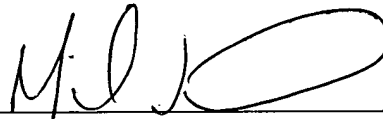


REMARKS

It is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are novel, nonobvious and useful and that the present application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a prompt and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any matter concerning this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 2, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. J. Marcin', written over a horizontal line.

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